deposits, advances, non-performing assets (NPAs), cost to income ratio, return on assets (ROA), profit, etc. Further, PSBs are required to lend at least 40 per cent of their Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) to the priority sector. Within this overall target, banks are required to lend 18 per cent of ANBC to agriculture sector and 10 per cent of ANBC to the weaker sections.

Norms for filing GR/SDF

1942. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether GR/SDF is not required to be filed in case of small export shipments;

(b) what are the details in this regard including the notification/master circular number and contents thereof;

(c) whether custom officials at airport/sea strictly follow relevant instruction in this regard;

(d) if not, what action is proposed for implementation of these instructions;

(e) whether there is any proposal under consideration to raise the limit of the F.O.B. value of the export shipment for non-filing of GR/SDF; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir. GR/SDF from is not required to be filed in respect of export of goods and software of value not exceeding USD 25,000 or its equivalent.

(b) The above exemption from furnishing of GR/SDF declaration has been given under Regulation 4(d) of the Foreign Exchange Management (Export of Goods and Services) Regulations, 2000. The relevant instructions have been issued by Reserve Bank of India *vide* A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 61 dated 31st January, 2004 and Notification No. FEMA. 116/2004-RB dated 25th March, 2004.

(c) Yes, Sir. Government has issued instructions to the Customs field formations *vide* Circular No. 53/2004-Customs dated 13th October, 2004 and instructions in F No. 450/25/2005-Cus. IV dated 29th March, 2005 for strictly following the RBI's aforesaid Circular and Notification.

(d) Does not arise in view of the reply at (c) above.

(e) Presently, there is no such proposal with the Government.

) Does not arise in view of the reply at (e) above.

Grant of additional pension as recommended by Fifth Pay Commission

1943. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Fifth Pay Commission recommendation with regard to grant of additional pension at the rate of one percent per year to those Central Government employees who have rendered more than 33 years of service with effect from 1st January, 1996, could not be accepted due to paucity of funds at that time;

(b) whether Government in the prevailing economic conditions propose to accept the said recommendations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Additional dearness allowance/relief due to Central Government employees/pensioners

1944. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of additional dearness allowance/relief has become due to the Central Government employees/pensioners with effect from 1 January, 2008, in terms of the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission;

(b) whether there is any proposal under consideration to grant interim relief to the employees and pensioners in view of their long standing demand; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, indicating the date from which the same would be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) 6% additional dearness allowance/relief has become due to the Central Government employees/pensioners with effect from 1 January, 2008 in terms of the recommendation of the Fifth Pay Commission.

(b) and (c) No proposal is under consideration for grant of interim relief to Central Government employees and pensioners.

Delay in disposal of seized/confiscated goods

1945. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are instances of abnormal delay in the disposal of seized/confiscated goods by the Customs Department leading to spoiling or deteriorating of the quality of such goods and in tern resulting loss of revenue to Government;

(b) whether such cases have pointed out by Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) during their audit;

(c) what is the work of internal department in avoiding irregularities committed by Income Tax and Customs departments; and

(d) whether it is a fact that many of audit paragraphs could be avoided provided the internal audit did its job rightly and effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.